[Mr. R. Rama Varier.]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

28. An examination of the present pendency of suits in the Law courts has brought home to Government the possibility of a reduction in the number of the existing temporary courts. Accordingly it is proposed to abolish two temporary Second Judges' courts, one at Trivandrum and the other at Quilon. The possibility of the abolition, in due course, of the remaining temporary courts also will be considered in the light of the effects of the Debt Relief Act on litigation.

Provision has also been made in the next year's budget for a more comprehensive issue of the authorised Law Reports on the model of the British Indian Law Reports. The reporting work is proposed to be assigned to a Committee consisting of an Editor, a Chief Reporter and another Reporter under the control of a Council, consisting of the Chief Justice as the President, a Judge of the High Court, the Advocate-General and a senior advocate as members.

POLICE.

29. The extra police force appointed in connection with the spread of subversive political activities in the State has been reduced in strength in view of the restoration of normal conditions. A part of the force is however being retained on account of the detachment of the First and Second Infantry of the State Forces and the probable detachment in the near future of the Third Infantry also, for war service, and also to cope with sudden emergencies that may arise.

EDUCATION.

30. Education being one of the primary duties of the State, a liberal provision of Rs 51·5 lakhs which is in excess of the revised estimates for the current year by Rs 1·69 lakhs, has been included in the next year's budget for the purpose. While speaking on the Education budget, the House would naturally expect me to say something about the development of the Travancore University. I must make special mention of the activities of the University in the direction of research.

Manufacture of Salt.—As a result of laboratory experiments conducted in the University Research Laboratory, it has been found that considerable improvements in the quality of salt could be effected without increasing the cost of production. Experiments have also been made on a large scale and the process is being adopted by the manufacturers.

Fuel Oil.—The possibility of producing high-speed diesel oil from the cheaper crude oil has been established as a result of the research work of the University. The House will appreciate that this is of much more than a purely academical interest, in view of its vital influence on our commercial schemes, especially the State Transport scheme. As the members are already aware, the ever increasing cost of propulsion consequent on the rise in the price of petrol as a result of the war

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conditions is one of the serious obstacles to the working of the Transport scheme on a more profitable basis. The use of this oil will go a great way to bring down the cost of propulsion, thereby tending to make the scheme more profitable.

Shark-liver Oil.—The Nutrition Research Laboratories at Coonoor have, after an examination of the samples of the shark-liver oil produced by the Marine Department of the University, certified that the oil produced here is more than three times as effective as the best cod-liver oil available in the market. The oil is being produced and sold on a commercial scale.

These are but a few of the various research activities on which the University is engaged and we can hope that ere long the University will more than justify the object with which it was organised.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

31. Besides the normal expansion of the Department, a scheme for the improvement of paddy in the State financed by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research was started during the current year. Two paddy breeding stations have been opened, one at Monkompu and the other near Adoor, for conducting necessary investigations. The inadequate production of paddy in the State has always been a serious problem to the ryots and to the Government. With a view to investigate the possibilities of increasing the production so as to meet the local demand, a Special Officer has been appointed to consider how far it would be possible to increase the area under paddy cultivation by the pumping of water from the Periyar with the help of electric power from Pallivasal. When the scheme is actually put into operation it is expected that about 25,000 acres of single crop paddy lands in the taluks of Kunnathunad, Muvattupuzha and Parur could be converted into double crop lands and some dry lands converted into wet. Even at a modest estimate it would then be possible to produce an additional quantity of 25 lakhs of paras of paddy. Government have also sanctioned proposals for deepening and renovating the existing tanks, providing new tanks and supplementing the supply of water in the Pachipara Reservoir in order to enhance the output of paddy in Nanjinad.

INDUSTRIES.

32. *Scheme for jaggery refining.*—About 16,000 tons of palmyra jaggery valued at about Rs 13½ lakhs are being produced in the country every year on small cottage industry basis; but the industry is languishing since it is being carried on in the most primitive and antiquated way without taking advantage of modern improved methods. A scheme for the demonstration of the manufacture of refined jaggery and for the training of the persons now engaged in producing crude jaggery is under consideration.

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